(a) whether some of the State Governments have approached the Union Government for the setting up of atomic power plants in their States;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Atomic Power Stations are presently operating/under construction at Tarapur (Maharashtra); Rawatbhata (Rajasthan); Narora (Uttar Pradesh); Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu); Kakrapar (Gujarat) and Kaiga (Karnataka). The State Governments of Punjab; Haryana; Madhya Pradesh; Andhra Pradesh; Kerala; West Bengal Orissa and Bihar have proposed from time to time setting up of nuclear power plants in their respective States. As regards the requests of the States falling under the Eastern Electricity Region; priority for setting up of a nuclear power plant is relatively low as the region is endowed with abundant coal reserves. As regards the proposal for setting up of atomic power plants in other regions; the Site Selection Committee constituted by the Department of Atomic Energy has examined the possible sites. The process of setting up of an atomic power station involves comprehensive safety and environmental reviews and is also subject to availability of financial resources. There is no proposal to take up any new nuclear power plant in any of these states during the 8th Five Year Plan.

Prices of Cemitidine, Furazolidine, Diclofenac Sodium and other formulations

260. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 313 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1994 and state:

(a) when were the prices of formulations based on Cemitidine, Furazolidine, Diclofenac Sodium, Carbamezapine and Ranitidine last revised under DPCO, 1987 and on what bulk drug price they were based, what were the earlier prices of these formulations and on what bulk drug price they were based;

(b) whether it is a fact that producers did not seek price approval when the rates of bulk drugs came down and the Ministry also did not reduce the prices or reduced them after a gap of three to four years consequent to reduction in the prices of bulk drugs;

(c) if so, what are the names of such drugs and their major formulations; and

(d) whether unintended benefit accrued to the producers, if so, what steps the Ministry has taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Receivers of DPEA Amount

261. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 314 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1994 and state:

(a) what are the names of the receivers of Rs. 497.77 lakhs from the Drug Prices Equalisation Account and what amount was paid to each and what for;

(b) whether those, who were paid, had also their liability to pay to the Government and if so, why were dues of the Government from them were not first recovered;

(c) who is responsible for such a financial impropriety and what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility;

(d) whether any misutilization of funds vis-a-vis provisions in paragraph 17 of DPCO, 1979 have been reported; and

(e) what are the full fact and why investigation has not been ordered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The names of drug companies and amount paid to each have already been given in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 314 answered on 28th July, 1994, reference of which has also been made by the Hon'ble Member in the present Question. These payments have been made to the companies as per provisions of Para 17(2) of DPCO, 1979 and Para 14(2) of DPCO, 1987.

(b) While releasing payments to the private drug companies, it was ensured that none of them had any DPEA liability.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Import of Deseferal

262. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1344 given in Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 1944 and state:

(a) what are the names of the companies which are importing and selling the imported formulation Deseferal in India and from source is the same being imp...

(b) what for is this formulation used and what are the substitutes of this drug, if available in the country;

(c) what is the present price per ampoule and what is the cost of treatment per month;

(d) whether imported formulations are subjected to excise duty and if not, how excise duty on this imported formulation has gone up; and

(e) what is the MAPE being charged on this imported formulation and what were its imports during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Deseferal is being imported in India by M|s. Hindustan Ciba-Geigy Ltd. from their principals in Switzerland.

(b) Deseferal is used for the treatmest of Thalasasemia. To the extent information is available, no known substitute is available in the country.

(c) The retail price of 1 vial works out to approximately Rs 122. The cost of treatment would very from patient to patient.

(d) The excise duty which was levied vide Notification No. 8/94-Central Excises dated 1st March, 1994 has been withdrawn vide Central Excise Notification No. 122|94 dated 16th August, 1994.